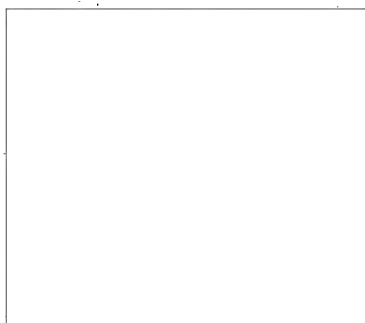


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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

19 OCT 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Party Congress highlights



A. Khrushchev made a second long speech yesterday, this time on the Party Program. His speech was essentially a rehash of the draft programs published in July, with heavy emphasis on his intention to maintain the present pattern of Soviet economic growth favoring heavy industry.

50X1

B. The Congress is evidently designed to be a major step in the deification of Khrushchev. Embassy Moscow reports that a book called "Story of an Honorary Miner" was published for the occasion; it contains a doctored photograph which purports to show Khrushchev and Stalin with a group of miners in 1925.

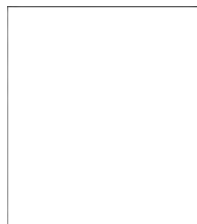
C. Initial Soviet attempts to play down the quarrel with China are not having much success. The Chinese responded to Khrushchev's attack on Albania by publishing yesterday an earlier speech praising Sino-Albanian friendship, and have not so far reported either of Khrushchev's speeches. The press also reports that Chou En-lai's reaction to the speeches has been less than enthusiastic.

D. It also appears that the East German regime was thoroughly surprised by Khrushchev's withdrawal of the deadline for signing a German peace treaty.

E. Today the Congress is "debating" the two speeches.

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2. New crisis in Ecuador

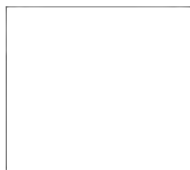


Leftist Vice-President Arosemena is attempting to impeach President Velasco, apparently hoping the military will back him in fear that Velasco will assume dictatorial powers. We doubt the army will jump this way, for its leaders prefer Velasco to Arosemena and have shown a willingness to support the former in moves against the left.

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3. French dislike British terms for Common Market membership



They say London has merely presented a well-packaged statement of "old Free Trade Area ideas," while the various special arrangements proposed to protect the Commonwealth and the Outer Seven make the general British acceptance meaningless. Other Common Market countries have reacted more favorably, but foresee long and complicated negotiations.

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4. Second Asia-Africa Conference may be called at Bandung



Indonesia has been trying for some time to convene such a conference, and has now been seconded by Communist China. The Chinese, who made much hay at the first Bandung meeting in 1955, want to hold the second next April. Indian reluctance is apparently the main obstacle.

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NOTES

- A. Gizenga is trying to reestablish the channel of support from Cairo to Stanleyville--and indirectly from the bloc--which had operated during his earlier period of isolation there. 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
- B. Communist China is opposed to U Thant as UN Secretary-General because it fears that Nehru will lead Burma "toward the right." 50X1
[redacted]
- C. The King of Laos has "accepted" Souvanna as cabinet formateur. The next step is another meeting of the three princes to agree on makeup of the cabinet, which will not be easy. 50X1
- D. The pro-forma Jordanian parliamentary elections are in progress today and could cause disorders.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--18 October 1961

No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

NOTE: Further Warsaw Pact exercises, which would improve the Soviet military posture, are likely in the near future.

South Vietnam: Communist forces are increasing their efforts to undermine the Diem government by sabotage and terrorism and to expand the Viet Cong areas of military control in South Vietnam.